HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE TOWN OF CAMDEN April 12, 2011

Present: Chair: Kit Parker

Member: Beedy Parker Alternate: Susan Snead

Volunteers: Sally Enggass, Rosalee Glass, Ann Sziklas

Code Enforcement Officer Steve Wilson

Kit Parker called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Secretary's Report:

There were three corrections to the March 8th minutes: under those present Susan Snead should be listed as an Alternate and the spelling corrected for Member Sonia Spalding; under Old Business, Maine State Historic Preservation Commission should replace historical preservation committee.

Old Business:

Steve Wilson reported the Planning Board was happy with the work of the Subcommittee (Kit Parker, Chris Glass, Richard Householder and Lowrie Sargent), but their proposed ordinance, based on that of the town of Ellsworth, which has a Town Council form of government, would have to be rectified slightly to accommodate Camden's Select Board system.

Recommendations were that it be a land-use ordinance such as established the Camden Historic Resources Committee initially and specify only Town-owned properties and those properties in the downtown Fire District, both Town-owned and private. The sub-committee suggested that at a later date, once the ordinance had been passed by the townspeople, an amendment could be added to allow other historic properties outside of the Fire District to be added to the registry, if the property owner applied.

Steve claimed the Article 16 draft would be ready in a few days for HRC members and the public to study. The process would be to first educate the public of its need and content, hold a public hearing, then have the Select Board approve it for the ballot, perhaps as soon as next November.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for such a commission that would have oversight of historic properties but with more "teeth" than the HRC and the importance of proceeding slowly and openly so that the public would understand the ordinance and more readily accept it. Rosalee suggested that Steve Wilson's office should have copies of the High Street and Chestnut Street Historic District materials in case property owners of historic properties wished to apply when and if an amendment was passed expanding the ordinance to cover all historic properties in town.

Village Green:

Sally reported that her inspection of the Green today revealed the usual need of spring clean-up: assorted trash strewn about, broken branches in need of pruning, a broken water faucet, Christmas wreath yet to be removed from the Veteran's Memorial. She emphasized that the Garden Club is responsible and Kit offered to call its president, Sheri Cobb, about the matter.

Archives:

Rosalee reported the committee had not met for several weeks, but would meet this Thursday and collect the High Street and Chestnut Street materials for Steve Wilson's office. Kit said Nikki Maounis would have Heather do the requested 30 hours of digitizing archival documents before the end of the fiscal year in June.

Harbor Park and Amphitheatre:

Beedy lauded Dave Jackson for his success in keeping up the Amphitheatre and Harbor Park without the use of pesticides. Beedy will pursue the project of a traditional spring tour of the Amphitheatre by the high school Botany class.

Budget:

The Budget Committee approved the HRC request of \$1100 for fiscal year 2010-2012. Kit presented the QR Code project to them, Dan Bookham and Dave Jackson helped by elaborating on it for the committee.

Cultural Tourism Historic Tours:

Ann Morris has met with Dan Bookham to discuss what should be included in the tours and they decided on the Amphitheatre/Harbor Park, Fire District, Opera House, Village Green and Town Landing. Present guides are Dave Jackson, Terry Bregy and Marlene Hall. More guides are needed and a training session will be offered. Some of the cruise ships provide their own guides for tours ashore.

Vicki Doudera has offered her Camden video for the Chamber of Commerce website, but it would have to be edited somewhat.

New Business:

There were lengthy discussions about the Knox Mill condos and the possibility of plentiful public parking eventually being available in that area and also about the May10th up or down vote regarding a film company moving into the old Tannery on Washington Street.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MAY 5, 2011

Respectfully submitted, Ann Sziklas